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December 21, 1900

and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 690 steerage passengers and 228 pieces of large and 800 pieces of small baggage. One hundred and sixty-six pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. November 23, the Italian steamship *Cerea*, bound with cargo for New York. November 24, the steamship *Victoria*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 631 steerage passengers and 120 pieces of large and 788 pieces of small baggage. One hundred and forty one pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. November 28, the steamship *Vincenzo Florio*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 859 steerage passengers and 170 pieces of large and 1,180 pieces of small baggage. Three hundred pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

Report from Yokohama—Plague situation.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, November 19, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that, so far as I have been able to ascertain, but 4 or 5 cases of plague have occurred in Osaka since the date of my last report. In Kobe there appears to have been but 1 genuine case recently, though a second was returned as of a highly suspicious nature, which later was decided not to be of pest. The cold weather has now fairly set in, and it is probable that there will be few more cases in the infected district during its continuance, especially as the government is not relaxing its efforts to combat the disease.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Yellow fever in Yucatan.

PROGRESO, November 30, 1900.

SIR: I regret to state that yellow fever has again appeared among the Americans working in Yucatan. About two months ago a construction company from the United States obtained the contract to build an iron or steel theater in the city of Motul, Yucatan. A gang of men came down from New York to do the work and it is among these men that the fever has appeared. One man, John Mollering, 272 East Tenth street, New York, N. Y., has died and several more are down, attacked by the same disease. It is a very unusual circumstance to have yellow fever anywhere in Yucatan at this season, even in the city of Merida, where it always occurs first, and doubly so in Motul, which is an inland city, very cleanly, and until now free from even the suspicion of yellow fever. The family of Mr. Mollering has been duly informed of his death by cable.

In this connection, and for the information of such as may apply to the Department, I would state that the sanitary laws of the State of

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Yucatan strictly prohibit the transportation of any person who has died of any contagious disease. So strict is this law interpreted that it is impossible to transport bodies from one town to the other even to inter them in the family burying ground. Hence any attempt looking to the exhumation and transportation of bodies from here to the United States can only result in failure.

Respectfully,

EDWARD THOMPSON,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Report from Vera Cruz.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, December 8, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended December 8: There were 6 cases of yellow fever and 1 case of smallpox reported, but no deaths from either disease. The general mortality report has not yet been received in this office, but will be forwarded Monday. During the week 7 vessels were issued bills of health and health certificates issued to 32 passengers. One hundred and thirty-seven passengers left here during the week on American-bound vessels, but as the majority were for Mexican ports, and, excepting the Havana passengers, all the others being for New York, where the quarantine has been raised during the winter, they were not issued health certificates. The last norther brought the thermometer down to 68, and the overcoat and sweater were very much in evidence. This temperature is frigid in this locality and can be relied upon to put an end to the yellow fever cases. The health of the shipping continues excellent, there being little sickness of any character in the harbor.

Respectfully,

SAML. H. HODGSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MOROCCO.

Quarantine station near Tangier to be moved from Mogador Island to Torre Blanquilla or Malabata Point.

TANGIER, November 16, 1900.

SIR: The Department will recall in my No. 236 of February 19, 1900, I reported that, with the consent of the Moorish authorities, a quarantine station was established on the island of Mogador for the past year only. The medical director, who was selected by the diplomatic corps and appointed by the Moorish Government, has now closed the said quarantine station, there being no more pilgrims returning from Mecca this year. The said medical director has reported that he considered the island of Mogador an unsuitable place for the station for the reason that, being such a distance down the coast, many pilgrims were landed at intervening points secretly, thus rendering the quarantine of no avail.

The conseil sanitaire have decided that it is absolutely necessary that the quarantine station for returning pilgrims should be at a place where more careful supervision could be exercised over it. They have accordingly instructed the German minister, who is now at the Shereefian court, to secure permission of the Moorish Government to permanently